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IN THE CLAIMS

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1. (Original) A method for storing electronic communications for access over a global communications system, the method comprising:

establishing a prepaid account including a validation number and an account balance;  
receiving an electronic communication to said prepaid account;  
storing said electronic communication in a central repository;  
logging in to said central repository from a remote computer using the validation number;  
serving said electronic communication to the remote computer; and  
decrementing the prepaid account.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic communication is a voice mail, the method further including:

receiving a plurality of voice mail communications at the central repository;  
presenting a list including said voice mail messages for selection to the remote computer;  
and  
serving said selected voice mail message to the remote computer.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic communication is a facsimile, the method further including:

receiving a plurality of facsimile communications at the central repository;  
presenting a list including said facsimiles for selection to the remote computer; and  
serving said selected facsimile to the remote computer.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of enabling the account balance to be increased.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further including the steps of:  
tracking each time and amount the account balance is increased;  
compiling a historical record of the account balance increases; and  
serving said increases to the remote computer.

6. (New) A method for storing electronic communications for access over a global communications system, the method comprising:

establishing a prepaid account including a validation number and an account balance;  
receiving an electronic communication to said prepaid account, the electronic communication being received in a non-web-compatible format;  
converting the electronic communication to a web compatible format;  
storing said converted electronic communication in a central repository;  
logging in to said central repository from a remote computer using the validation number;  
serving said converted electronic communication to the remote computer; and  
decrementing the prepaid account responsive to.

A 7. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the electronic communication is a voice mail, the method further including:  
receiving a plurality of voice mail communications at the central repository, wherein the voice mail communications are received in a non-web-compatible format;  
converting the voice mail communications to a web-compatible format;  
presenting a list including said converted voice mail messages for selection to the remote computer; and  
serving said selected voice mail message to the remote computer.

8. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the non-web-compatible format is a VOX format.

9. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the web-compatible format is a WAV format.

10. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the electronic communication is a facsimile, the method further including:  
receiving a plurality of facsimile communications at the central repository, wherein the facsimile communications are received in a non-web-compatible format;  
converting the voice mail communications to a web-compatible format;  
presenting a list including said converted facsimiles for selection to the remote computer; and  
serving said selected facsimile to the remote computer.

11. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the non-web-compatible format is a TIFF format.

A 12. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the web-compatible format is a JPEG format.

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